

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ABF-01 SSO-00 /012 W

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O 122025Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4665

UNCLAS CARACAS 06472

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: FSP,VE

SUBJECT: FY 76 COMMERCIAL BUDGET

REF: A) STATE 98756; B) 149986

1. ASSUMPTION THAT RESOURCES AT POST ARE ADEQUATE IS ERRONEOUS. PROBLEM IS LACK OF TIME TO COMPLETE BUDGET INFORMATION. POST BUDGET & FISCAL SECTION COMPLETELY INVOLVED IN OTHER END-OF-FISCAL YEAR REPORTS. FOR EXAMPLE, SCHEUDLES S-2, S-14 AND V OF FIELD BUDGET ESTIMATES NOT EXPECTED TO BE COMPLETED FOR CARACAS BEFORE THE END OF JULY.

2. FIRST AND FOREMOST IN CARACAS REQUIRMENTS IS ADDITIONAL LOCAL CLERK TYPIST POSITION. THIS REQUEST HAS BEEN JUSTIFIED IN SEVERAL OTHER MESSAGES AND WILL FORM PART OF EMBASSY 1975 ESTIMATE TO BE SUBMITTED SEPARATELY BY BUDGET & FISCAL. SEPARATE JUSTIFICATION HAS OR WILL BE MADE FOR THIRD AMERICAN SECRETARY AND A PROFESSIONAL LOCAL; FOR MARKET RESEARCH. TO MEET LATEST DEALINE IN REF. (B) WE ARE ONLY ABLE TO FURNISH APPROXIMATE ANTICIPATED PERCENTAGE INCREASES FOR VARIOUS BUDGET ITEMS. THESE ITEMS FOLLOW:

	ACTUAL	ESTIMATED (PERCENT)
	1974	1975 1976

A. TRADE PROMOTION REPRESENTATION	N/A	15 15
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NARRATIVE JUSTIFICATION: FOUR NEW OFFICERS OUT OF TOTAL COMPLEMENT OF SEVEN WILL ARRIVE IN EARLY FY 75.

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REPRESENTATION ESSENTIAL FOR THEIR EARLY INTRODUCTION

TO BUSINESS, ECONOMIC AND GOVERNMENT COMMUNITIES
AND RECENT STEEP COST OF LIVING INCREASES IN VENEZUELA
ADD TO OUR ESTIMATE.

B. COMMERCIAL TRAVEL N/A 20 20

NARRATIVE JUSTIFICATION: THESE FOUR NEW OFFICERS PLUS
TRANSFER OF COMMERCIAL OFFICER TO ASSUME PETROLEUM
ATTACHE POSITION WILL REQUIRE INTENSIVE TRAVEL FOR
ORIENTATION AND TRADE PROMOTION PURPOSES. COST OF
LIVING INCREASE ALSO AFFECTS TRAVEL. AS EXAMPLE
AIRLINE FARE INCREASES ARE EXPECTED IN NEAR FUTURE.

C. COMMERCIAL LIBRARY N/A 25 40

NARRATIVE JUSTIFICATION: MUCH OF COMMERCIAL LIBRARY
MATERIAL BECOMING OUTDATED AND ACQUISITION COST
HAS DRASTICALLY INCREASED. EXAMPLE: JANE'S ALL THE
WORLD'S AIRCRAFT INCREASED FROM \$35 TO \$64. THERE IS
EVER INCREASING DEMAND FOR COMMERCIAL LIBRARY MATERIAL
ON THE PART OF LOCAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY.

D. COMMERCIAL NEWSLETTER: N/A 20 30

NARRATIVE JUSTIFICATION: REQUESTED INCREASE WILL
HARDLY COVER PRINTING COST AND ALLOW ONLY MINIMUM
POSSIBLE TO INCREASE CIRCULATION AND RESTRICTS NEWSLETTER
TO PRESENT USIS PROVIDED FORMAT WHICH WE ARE AWARE DOES
NOT MATCH QUALITY OF OTHER EMBASSY COMMERCIAL NEWSLETTERS.

E. CONTRACT SERVICES: N/A N/A N/A

NARRATIVE JUSTIFICATION: EMBASSY ASSUMES MOST OF THESE
WILL BE COVERED BY COMMERCIAL APPROPRIATIONS FOR
MARKET RESEARCH CONTRACTS AND PART-TIME PERSONNEL
FOR MISSIONS AND TRADE SHOWS. IF QUESTION ARISES OF
CONTRACTING OUT OF WTDRS IT WILL BE SUBJECT OF LATER
MESSAGE. LATEST OFFER OF DUN & BRADSTREET FOR THIS
SERVICE IS \$ 11 PER COPY WITH POSSIBILITY OF LOWER
RATE FOR VOLUME. IF COMMERCE WISHES CONSIDER THIS
POSSIBILITY IN NAR FUTURE THEN COST FIGURES FOR FY
75 WILL BE 3/4 OF \$11,000 AND \$15,000 FOR FY76.

F. POSITIONS. NO. 1974 1975 1976

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NARRATIVE JUSTIFICATION: IN SPITE OF PROHIBITION
AGAINST REQUEST FOR FY 75 SEE PARAGRAPH 2 COMMENT WHICH
EMBASSY INSISTS ON MAKING. FY 76 NUMBER IS A
CONTINUATION OF REQUEST IN EVENT IT IS NOT APPROVED
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FOR FY 75.

G. WORKLOAD STATISTICS:

WTDRS 1130 1250 1400

ADS 182 225 280

FOREIGN TRADERS INDEX 80 100 125

TRADE OPPORTUNITIES 324 434 504.

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Message Attributes

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